

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /111 W
----- 013364

R 031236Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 537

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, HU

SUBJECT: CIVAIR-PAN AM SERVICE TO HUNGARY

REF: STATE 201773 AND BUDAPEST 3817

STATE FOR EB/AN, EB/EWT AND EUR/EE

1. SUMMARY: MIN FOR AFF HAS GIVEN FORMAL VERBAL REPLY TO OUR DIPLOMATIC NOTE REQUESTING REOPENING OF CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. GOH WANTS BUDAPEST NOT WASHINGTON TO BE LOCATION. EARLY JANUARY IS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE TIMING. MR. IVAN OF MFA FIRST DECLINED TO CITE REASON AND THEN, LATER, NOTED THAT FIRST NEGOTIATIONS WERE IN WASHINGTON SO RECIPROCITY WOULD MEAN BUDAPEST SHOULD NOW BE SITE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN MEETING ARRANGED NOV. 30 FOR SAME DAY, IVAN OF AMERICAN DESK AT MIN FOR AFF DELIVERED TO COMOFF FORMAL VERBAL REPLY TO OUR OCT. 15 NOTE REQUESTING REOPENING OF CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. IVAN REFERRED COMOFF TO VISIT BETWEEN BASSO OF PAN AM AND HUVOS (SEE BUDAPEST REFTTEL) ON NOV. 27, AT WHICH COMOFF WAS PRESENT. ACCORDING TO IVAN OUR NOTE HAD BEEN SENT WITH COVERING LETTER TO MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND POST AND HE WAS NOW MAKING REPLY FROM THAT MINISTRY THE
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OFFICIAL REPLY FOR GOH. HIS REPLY WAS VERY BRIEF,

AND AT FIRST MENTIONED ONLY THE REQUEST THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD IN BUDAPEST. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT EARLY JANUARY WAS SATISFACTORY TIMING.

3. AFTER REGRETTING THAT IT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO PRESENT WRITTEN REPLY, HE OFFERED ONE IF NECESSARY. COMOFF SAID WRITTEN REPLY APPEARED UNNECESSARY SINCE ANSWER TO NOTE COULD BE CONVEYED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. HE THEN ASKED IVAN WHETHER HE WISHED TO MENTION REASON FOR PREFERENCE OF BUDAPEST. IVAN AT FIRST DECLINED, BUT LATER MENTIONED THAT FIRST TALKS WERE IN WASHINGTON SO ACCORDING TO FREQUENT PRACTICE BUDAPEST WOULD BE LOGICAL PLACE FOR REOPENING NEGOTIATIONS.

4. IVAN WANTED TO KNOW WHAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN

HUVOS, BASSO, AND COMOFF AT NOV. 27 MEETING. COMOFF STATED THAT MEETING WAS CONSTRUCTIVE BEGINNING FOR PAN AM IN OPENING AN OFFICE IN BUDAPEST, THAT HUVOS HAD SAID SPACE IN TERMINAL WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PAN AM, AND THAT BASSO NOTED THAT PAN AM HAD TENTATIVELY AGREED FOR AN OFFICE IN THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL COMPLEX. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER TICKETING HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, COMOFF SAID HE HAD NO RAISED SUBJECT BUT HUVOS NOTED THAT FORINT SALES NOT NOW PERMITTED. HE ALSO TOLD IVAN THAT BASSO HAD NOT AGREED WITH HUVOS, BUT THAT SUBJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE COVERED IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL.

5. IVAN INVITED EMBASSY TO COME TO HIM WHENEVER FURTHER INFORMATION WAS NEEDED BUT ALSO POINTED OUT THAT HE IS CONCERNED WITH POLITICAL MATTERS AND IS NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE IN CIVIL AVIATION AREA.
PEDERSEN

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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